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Assembly California Legislature



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Dear Editor,

Re: "LA's Good Burn Centers Buck Trend," August 9

We would like to thank you for your recent article calling attention to the devastating financial pressures burn centers face in this country.

Your article clearly illustrates the important role burn centers, such as the Grossman Burn Center in Sherman Oaks, play in our health care system and how inadequate funding is jeopardizing these centers across the nation. After losing another burn center last year, California only has 13 remaining and if we fail to remedy our system we risk losing some of the tremendous centers we have right here in the Southland.

As a response to this troubling situation, we have authored AB 1269 which will raise workers compensation reimbursement rates for the treatment of serious burns and help keep these centers afloat. When you consider that burn centers are imperative in the event of a disaster and are responsible for treating workers that provide vital public safety services, the need to keep the centers open becomes even more apparent.

AB 1269 has passed the State Assembly, and will soon be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee. We encourage supporters of burn centers to lobby their legislators and Governor Schwarzenegger in order to pass this important legislation. Our state cannot afford to lose these centers, nor can those who may need this vital medical treatment.

Assemblymember Ed Hernandez

57th District

Assemblymember Mike Feuer

42nd District